

### REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated July 3, 2002. Claims 1-22 stand rejected. The undersigned appreciates the discussion of February 20, 2003 with the Examiner clarifying certain aspects of the prosecution. The amendments are made herein in hopes of expediting an allowance.

The Applicant has amended claims 1, 9, 12, 14, and 20, cancelled claims 2, 8, and 19, and added new dependent claims 23-25, without prejudice. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejections and to contact the undersigned if there are any remaining issues that the Examiner believes could be resolved in an interview which could result in allowance of the case.

Claims 1-22 were initially rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 concerning the term "intelligent." The Applicant has added the term "adaptable" in conjunction with the Examiner's conference to convey that a passive identifier is not the purpose of the term "intelligent." Thus, it is believed that the issue has been clarified and mooted.

The claims initially stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) using references *Archbold*, *Smith*, *Kappner*, and *Muller* and under 35 U.S.C. § 103 over *Stickelbrocks* and over *Pfeiffer* in combination with *Muller*. The amendments clarify the claims and the intent of "intelligent." None of the references, alone or in combination, teach the subject matter of the claimed invention as presented in each of the independent claims. Particularly, none of the references teach, show, or suggest having or using an adaptable intelligent tag with a household products reusable container, such as for detergents and cleaning related products.

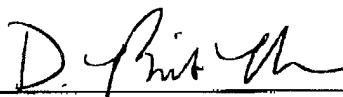
While the above distinctions regarding the independent claims are believed to be sufficient for patentability, the Applicant does not waive any rights in the dependent claims that separately contain patentable distinctions.

In conclusion, the references cited by the Examiner, neither alone nor in combination, teach, show or suggest the present invention. Therefore, it is believed that the rejections made by the Examiner have been obviated, and Applicant respectfully requests that the same be withdrawn. Allowance of the claims is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date:

3/17/03



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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**

**In the claims:**

Please amend claims 1, 9, 12, 14, and 20, cancel claims 2, 8, and 19, and add new dependent claims 23-25, without prejudice.

1. (Twice Amended) A reusable container for household products, which comprises therein one or more readable identification means, the identification means comprising an updatable electronic intelligent tag adapted to be reprogrammable with information related to one or more household products stored in the reusable container, the container comprising an exterior collapsible portion below the rigid upper portion.

9. (Twice Amended) A container for providing information, comprising a household product reusable container, an identification means comprising an adaptable electronic intelligent tag coupled to the reusable container, and one or more fill apertures for refilling the reusable container with one or more household products, wherein the electronic intelligent tag is adapted to be reprogrammed with information regarding the household products stored in the container.

12. (Twice Amended) A process for the monitoring and recordal of household product information during filling or refilling of a reusable container with one or more household products, [which comprises the steps of] comprising:

- (a) reading an identification means comprising an adaptable electronic intelligent tag on the reusable container during filling or refilling of a reusable container with the household products; and

- (b) storing the information obtained therefrom in a storage means that is capable of being interrogated to extract and optionally process the information.

14. (Amended) The process of Claim 12, wherein the reusable container comprises an exterior collapsible bag or sachet.

20. (Twice Amended) A process for using an identification means, comprising [the steps of]:

- (a) providing one or more identification means comprising an adaptable electronic intelligent tag with a household products reusable container; and
- (b) monitoring and recording household product information using the adaptable electronic intelligent tag during a refilling of the reusable container with one or more household products.

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